

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claim 20 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claim 20 is objected to for improper punctuation. Claim 20 has been corrected.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-5, 9-16 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kendall (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,383). Applicants respectfully assert that Kendall does not disclose or suggest the feature of claims 1, 3-5, 9-16 and 18 of the air flux director being positioned to redirect the flow of air in a direction which is generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the fan; the air flux director being axially spaced from the fan and shaped to radially deflect air exhausted by the fan as in claim 19; and deflecting the exhausted air off of an air flux director in a radially outward direction which is generally perpendicular with the axial direction as in claim 20.

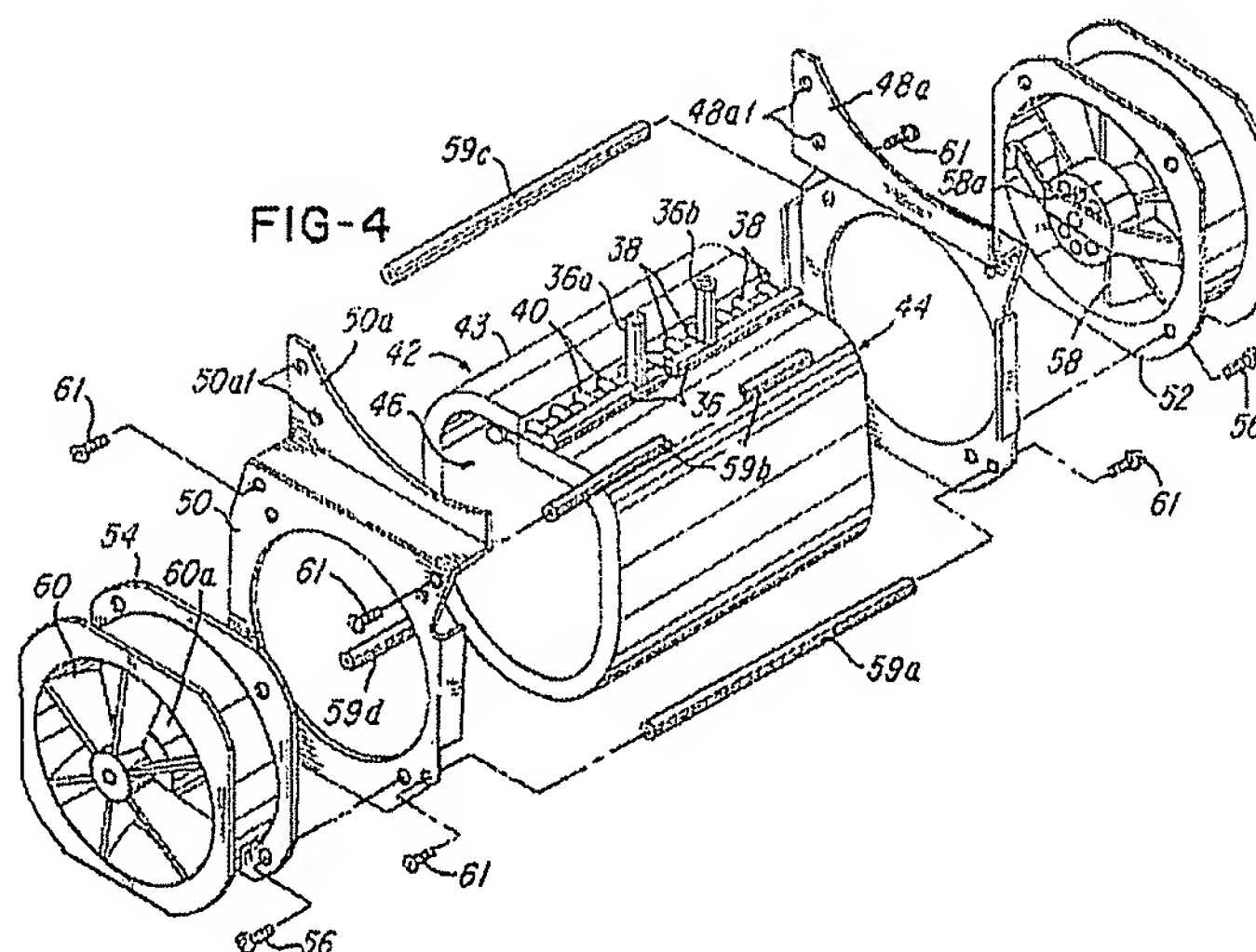
Kendall utilizes a radial fan 36 that redirects the axial flow of air to a radial flow. The Kendall shroud 34 does not redirect the flow of air in a direction which is generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the fan as in claims 1, 3-5, 9-16. The Kendall shroud 34 is not shaped to radially deflect air exhausted by the fan as in claim 19. The Kendall shroud 34 does not deflect the exhausted air in a radially outward direction which is generally perpendicular with the axial direction as in claim 20.

The Office Action rejects claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Kendall in view of McCarthy (U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0022362). Applicants respectfully assert that the combination of Kendall and McCarthy does not disclose or suggest the feature of claim 17 of the air flux director being positioned to redirect the flow of air in a direction which is generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the fan.

As described above, Kendall does not disclose this feature. McCarthy is directed to a closed loop cooling system that does not have this feature of claim 17.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-12, 16, and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over McCarthy (U.S. Patent No. 6,997,609) in view of Rodewald (U.S. Patent No. 4,634,342). Applicants respectfully assert that there is no motivation to modify the McCarthy device with the feature of claims 1-12, 16 and 18 of the air flux director being positioned to redirect the flow of air in a direction which is generally perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the fan; the air flux director being axially spaced from the fan and shaped to radially deflect air exhausted by the fan as in claim 19; and deflecting the exhausted air off of an air flux director in a radially outward direction which is generally perpendicular with the axial direction as in claim 20.

The McCarthy device utilizes a pair of axial fans (58, 60) to draw air into a tubular radiator (42) through openings formed along the top portion of the tubular radiator and defined between the cooling conduits (38, 40):



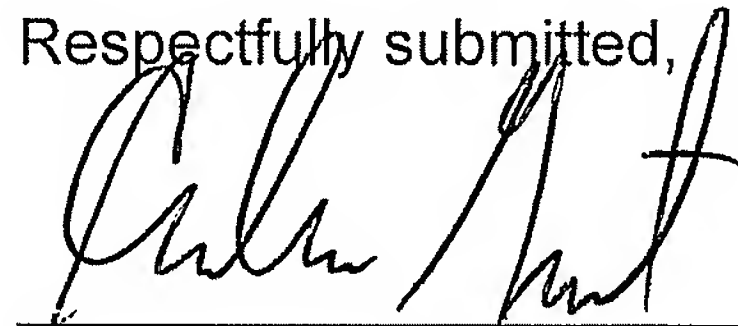
The air flow contacts the inner surface of the tubular radiator (42) to draw heat therefrom and then exhausts out of the ends of the McCarthy device through the shrouds (52, 54) surrounding the axial fans thereby drawing the heat from the tubular radiator. If the McCarthy device was modified to position an air flux deflector in the tubular radiator (42), then such a modification would prevent the air from contacting portions of the inner surface of the tubular radiator. By reducing the thermal contact area between the air flow and the inner surface of the tubular radiator (42), the cooling efficiency of the McCarthy device would be reduced. Such a modification obviates one of the objectives of the McCarthy device, which is to provide improved cooling performance. (McCarthy col. 2, lines 5-8). There is also no motivation to modify the McCarthy device by positioning air flux directors downstream of the axial fans (58, 60) since the fans have been positioned to exhaust directly to atmosphere and thus no direction change of the air flow is necessary.

Moreover, McCarthy has an objective of reducing the weight of the components of its device, in particular its radiator, in light of the gravitational and gyroscopic forces that are increased due to increased rotational speeds. (McCarthy col. 1, line 65 through col. 2, line 4). The addition of an air flux director that requires a sufficient size and shape to redirect the flow as described in claims 1-12, 16, and 18-20, would add weight to the McCarthy device and would be contrary to the teachings of McCarthy.

Accordingly, for at least the above-described reasons, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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